

*WASHINGTON, D.C.* – Congressman John Hall (NY-19) welcomed Rabbi Joshua Davidson, Senior Rabbi of Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester, to the Floor of the U.S. House of Representatives today to serve as Guest Chaplain. Rabbi Davidson delivered an invocation that began the legislative proceedings for the day.

Congressman Hall spoke in praise of Rabbi Davidson after the opening prayer, and said he has had a long distinguished career, serving on many charitable organizations, interfaith coalitions and prestigious Jewish organizations. “Rabbi Davidson is a worthy entry into the long line of guest chaplains in the House of Representatives,” Rep. Hall added.

“It was an extraordinary opportunity for which I am most grateful,” said Rabbi Davidson after giving his invocation. “It was an honor to have addressed these Representatives who have devoted their lives to the public good, and especially to have been invited by someone who I so admire – an advocate for so many causes important to me.”

In addition to his post at Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester, which is located in Chappaqua, NY, Rabbi Davidson is the president of the Westchester Board of Rabbis and the chaplain of the New Castle Fire Department. He also recently served as chair of the Central Conference of American Rabbis’ Committee on Justice, Peace and Religious Liberties and as vice-chair of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism.

Rabbi Davidson was accompanied in Washington by his wife, Cantor Mia Fram Davidson, their daughter Mikaela, his mother and father in-law, Carol and David Fram, and his aunt, Greer Goldman.

Every member of Congress is afforded the opportunity to invite one clergy member from his or her district to serve as Guest Chaplain for a day.

The practice of opening legislative sessions in prayer dates all the way back to the First Continental Congress in 1774, and has continued every day while Congress is in session.

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